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(54) Title: POROUS BODIES AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The invention provides a method for preparing water dispersible or water soluble porous bodies and the bodies themselves. The bodies have an intrusion volume as measured by mercury porosimetry of at least about 3 ml/g and comprise a three dimensional open-cell lattice containing less than 10% by weight of a water soluble polymeric material and 5 to 90% by weight of a surfactant, with the proviso that said porous bodies are not spherical beads having an average bead diameter of 0.2 to 5mm. The method comprises the steps of: a) providing an intimate mixture of the polymeric material and the surfactant in a liquid medium b) providing a fluid freezing medium at a temperature effective for rapidly freezing the liquid medium; c) cooling the liquid medium with the fluid freezing medium at a temperature below the freezing point of the liquid medium for a period effective to rapidly freeze the liquid medium; and d) freeze-drying the frozen liquid medium to form the porous bodies by removal of the liquid medium by sublimation.

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